



Maiden Erleigh School NEWSBLAST

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OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL

26 June 2018 - Issue 20

From the Headteacher



We are drawing closer to the end of the examination season and I have to say how proud I am of the students in the way they have conducted themselves. They have taken the first general round of the new, and much more challenging, GCSE and A Levels but have risen to that challenge with courage and resilience. I should also like to congratulate our examinations team. It is not an easy job and they ensure our examinations run smoothly and that the students have as calm an environment as possible.

Miss Young and Mr Buck recently went to London to collect our SSAT Awards – being in the top 10% of schools nationally for both attainment and progress is really something to be proud of and we shall be hanging our certificates in pride of place.



Whilst the term is certainly far from over, and there is still much work to be done, we are now starting to look forwards to our end of year events such as new Year 7 and new Year 12 induction, Open Evening, Sports Day, the Sports Personality Award, the Summer Concert and a number of trips. All of these events are a tremendous showcase for what we do as a school, with students having front and centre roles in each event.

Thank you, as ever for your support and encouragement of staff and students.

Mary Davies

CALENDAR

25-27 June	Year 12 Induction
26 June	Yellow Pages Athletics Final
27 June	Berkshire School Games
27 June	Year 11 Prom
27 June	Year 6 Induction
28 June	New Parents' Evening
29 June	A level Art Exhibition
4 July	Year 5 Open Evening
5 July	Year 7-10 Lords Cricket Trip
5 July	School Closed for Staff Training Day
11 July	Summer Concert
12 July	Sports Personality Evening
18 July	Sports and Activities Day

VACANCIES AVAILABLE ON MAIDEN ERLEGH SCHOOL LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD and MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST

We are looking for new members for our Local Advisory Board (LAB) and, separately, for Trustees. These roles are voluntary.

For Maiden Erleigh School LAB we are particularly interested in individuals who have financial experience or have links to local businesses. This role would be suitable for people who have an interest in school governance and want to give back to their local school. Experience is not essential as induction and training will be provided.

For more information about our LAB:
<http://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/page/?title=Local+Advisory+Board+%28Governing+Body%29&pid=75>

For the Trustee role, we are looking for up to two individuals with skills/experience in one or more of the following areas: human resources, finance, law, marketing/PR. Experience of committee work would be preferable. Induction and training is provided for Trustees also.

For more information about our Trust:
<http://www.maidenerleghtrust.org/>

Please note that parents with relevant experience are more than welcome to express interest in these roles but you do not have to be a parent to take up these vacancies.

If you are interested, please contact Mrs V Boatman, Clerk to the Maiden Erleigh Trust (boatman@maidenerleghschool.co.uk) - 01189262467

Reminder

WE'RE CLOSED

Thursday 5 July is a Professional Development Day
Students will be dismissed at 1.55pm on Wednesday 4 July
and are not expected back in school until Friday 6 July.

What is life like as a Buddhist today? Our Year 8s have been finding out.....

Today we had exciting visitors called Kelsang Ningpo, who is a Buddhist nun and Bill Cosgrove who is a lay Buddhist from the Kadampa Meditation Centre in Reading. It was so interesting and enjoyable to find out about them and what their lives are like being a Buddhist in 2018.

First, we meditated together on the floor and it felt a bit odd because we were not used to it but it was very peaceful. It cleared our minds of our troubles while we focussed on the breath.

Then we were given a chance to ask our own questions. We asked them about their views of rebirth, meditation and to explain some of the Buddha's key teachings (of which she told us there are 84,000!). We learnt that they believe that the mind is the source of both suffering and happiness, and that their main goal is to achieve enlightenment so that there can be complete inner peace.

On behalf of Year 8, we would like to thank Kelsang Ningpo and Bill Cosgrove for their time and for teaching us something new!

*By Isobel, Beth, Cerys, Reena, Nathan, Samuel, Millie and Zahra
(8m/Re3)*



ASDAN - Citizenship & Community Module

The Year 9 ASDAN students are working towards their Citizenship & Community Module. As part of this they are assisting at pre-school and tidying up the garden area to make it safer for the children to play.

Responsibilities also include supporting the staff at pre-school to work alongside the pre-school children in a range of indoor and outdoor activities.

The pre-school leader commented:

"We are very grateful to the ASDAN students for the effort they put in to helping us keep our outside play area neat and tidy. Please pass my thanks to them. Their support means that our staff can dedicate all of their time to our pupils."

I know our pupils really enjoy having the ASDAN students at pre-school and I'm really pleased that the arrangement works well for both settings. We look forward to working with you and the ASDAN students in the future."



Environment Module

On Tuesday 5 June 2018, Year 9 ASDAN students visited Maiden Erlegh Lake as part of their Environment module to learn about the different wildlife that can be found in our community.

During their trip the students worked hard to spot as many types of wetland birds as possible. They identified 9 different types of birds.

They met Anna Booshall, a Zoology student from the University of Reading who was undertaking a wetland bird survey for the British Trust of Ornithology. She showed students some of the birds and lent her binoculars so the students could study the birds up close.

Summer Extravaganza Concert

The Summer Extravaganza Concert takes place on Wednesday 11 July in the Sports Hall starting at 7pm.

This event represents a culmination of the work of the Music and Drama Departments this term and will consist of a variety of music from the extra-curricular groups including Senior Band, the Choir, Drama Club and Samba Band along with a selection of solos and small ensemble performances. It will also feature some of the music and drama performances that we will be performing on the Four Countries Performing Arts Tour which departs on Thursday 19 July.

The winners of Maiden Erlegh Musician of the Year will also be announced.

Details of how to get tickets will be announced shortly.



National Scout and Guide Concert Band

Congratulations to Year 8 student Rachel who has recently been selected to join the National Scout and Guide Concert Band playing the double bass. She is the first double bass player in the concert band. At the end of July she will learn nine pieces of film music which she will then perform at various venues across the Midlands, including their headline concert in August in the Birmingham Conservatoire. They will also be supporting the symphony orchestra that weekend. We wish her luck in this exciting venture.

Junior Music Camp

This year I went to Junior Music Camp at Piggott's Farm in High Wycombe. It is a music weekend where we played as an orchestra and camped on the farm. It was a great weekend and we played Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, which was amazing. I played percussion. This is the second year that I have been and I loved it even more than the first time.

By Nathan (Year 9)

Year 7 and 8 Music Rewards Trip

On Wednesday 23 May, 66 Year 7 and 8 students, Mrs Burbage, Miss Pitman, Mr Jones, Mr Sparks, Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Heppollette went to the Wycombe Swan Theatre in High Wycombe to watch a performance of the musical Hairspray.

Hairspray is set in Baltimore in 1962 and tells the story of teenager Tracy Turnblad. Tracy has a big dream to dance her way onto national TV. As part of her story she fights for integration. The musical features many hit songs including "Welcome To The 60s" and "Can't Stop The Beat".

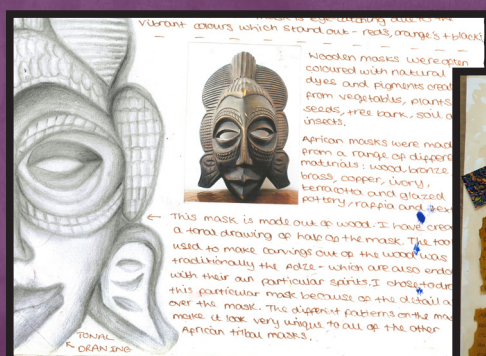


The students were chosen as a reward for their hard work in music lessons and for their attendance at extra-curricular music clubs. The trip was very over-subscribed and we were sorry that we couldn't take more students.

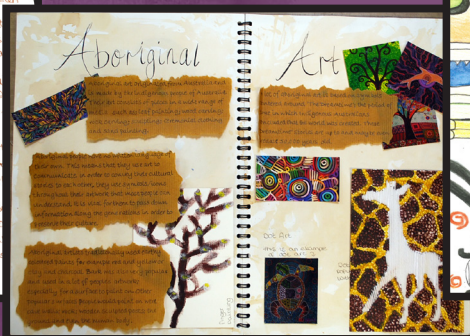
All of the students were impeccably behaved and a credit to the school. They enjoyed the show and could be seen singing and dancing.

Artists of the Month

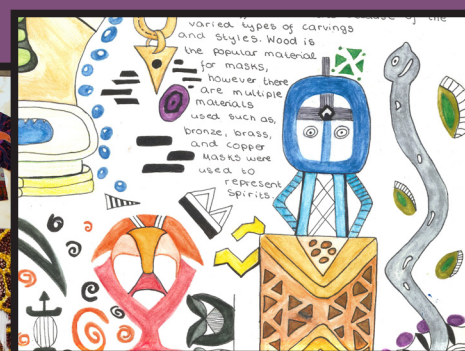
Congratulations to Megan (Yr7), Mariam (Yr7), Theo (Yr7), Sophie (Yr7), Maria (Yr7), Ciara (Yr7), Claire (Yr7), Disha (Yr7), Polly (Yr9), Hanisha (Yr9) and Hannah (Yr9) for being awarded 'Artist of the Month' for May.



Hanisha



Hannah



Polly



By Maria, Mariam, Megan, Claire



By Ciara, Disha, Sophie, Theo

Congratulations Art Club Winners!

During the Autumn term members of art club work on a national competition entry for the education art prize. We took on the challenge to create a mosaic piece of work inspired by the artist Cleo Mussi. We set about creating a mosaic but decided to hand make and paint all our individual tile pieces! This took several weeks of experimenting and making with clay to make sure we had enough tiles to cover our life size figure. After painting all the tiles we assembled our finished piece.

This was entered into the competition and selected as one of ten finalists. Mrs Nottage and Sam were invited to spend the day with the other finalists working with the artist and exploring her techniques further. It was a day of learning new skills, challenging our understanding of creating a successful mosaic and getting rather sore hands!

At the end of the day we were delighted to find out the Cleo had selected our competition entry as the national winner! She was hugely impressed with the extra time at detail that had gone into our collective piece. Many thanks to Sam for representing art club and Maiden Erlegh School so well and a huge thankyou to all the art club members for their hard work and contribution. Out of hundreds of entries you did us proud! The art department are now looking forward to the competition hosts bring Cleo Mussi into the department for a full day's art workshop!



Maiden Erlegh Art Department have been finalists in this National Art Competition for the last 6 years and have attended a workshop with an artist as a finalist every year since the competition has been running! This is a really special achievement as each year around 600 schools enter this competition. This year we actually won!!

Sydney Sussex College

On Wednesday 6 June, 25 Gold Programme students were selected to go on a trip to Sydney Sussex College, part of Cambridge University, with 11 other students from Chiltern Edge School.

Sydney Sussex College is just one of 29 colleges making up Cambridge University and was built in 1596 making it one of the oldest colleges to be part of Cambridge University.

Our first talk was by Katie Vickers (the admissions officer), a presentation telling us about what it is like to live the Cambridge life and how to get there. A Q&A with 3 Cambridge students gave us good insight into life at university. We found out many things, such as how to manage time at university, the transition of school to university and how to manage the increase in independent learning. Then they gave us a tour of the college showing us the accommodation services and places to eat. After having an extra ravenous lunch, we were fuelled to listen to a very interesting and learning enhancing speech on the Black Death. It showed us how cross-curricular many subjects are due to the fact you can look at similar themes with from many different angles. Furthermore, it awarded us a valuable insight telling us how to develop theories from different angles.

This wrapped up our visit of Sydney Sussex College and the icing on the cake, we some had some free time to roam around Cambridge town centre.

For us the highlight of this whole trip was our Q&A with the current students of Cambridge University. This is because to talk to people near the same age bracket as us meant that they made some very relatable points, which helped us understand university life even more.



Sidney Sussex College
University of Cambridge



MAIDEN ERLEGH
TRUST

We have a number of support staff vacancies within Maiden Erlegh Trust:

**Trust Accounts Assistant
Cover Supervisors
Assistant Site Controllers
Inclusion Administrator
Teaching Assistants
Lunchtime Controllers
School Evening Cleaners**

Please see the school website for further details:
<https://maidenerleghtrust.careers.eteach.com/>

PE Department

Click here to view our latest Sports Bulletin



Letters for Parents

www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/letters-for-parents/
Click here to view recent communications



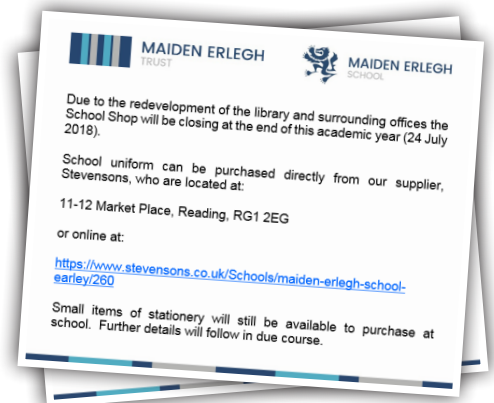
Our way of communicating with you is changing...

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Over the coming months we are moving to some new tools to help us better communicate with you as parents:

- We will be introducing a new mobile phone parent and student app to replace the existing learning gateway.
- We are introducing a simpler system for staff to communicate both achievements and behaviour issues with you.
- We are moving to a new notification system for lateness and absence.

Information about these changes will be sent out shortly.



School Meals

Please be aware as of September 2018 a set school meal will be increasing to £3.

Term Dates 2017-2018

Mon 4 June - Tue 24 July

Professional Development Days

Thur 5 July

For our 2018-2019 term dates please [click here](#) and scroll down our website to view.

ParentPay

Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.

Any queries please email us at ParentPay@maidenerleghschool.co.uk



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